

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 WELLIN 01379 152221Z

12

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 PM-03 NSC-05 SS-15 /046 W

----- 044020

R 152127Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO USIA WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9652

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 1379

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION

FOR: IOP, IPS, IBS

1. THE CHRISTCHURCH PRESS, THE SOUTH ISLAND'S LARGEST DAILY NEWSPAPER (CIRC 74,000), UNDER THE HEADING "RECOGNISING THE PRG IN SAIGON", COMMENTED ON MAY 14:

2. "NEW ZEALAND HAS FOLLOWED AUSTRALIA, JAPAN, FRANCE AND MALAYSIA IN ITS RECOGNITION OF THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT IN SOUTH VIETNAM. THE GOVERNMENT WAITED UNTIL IT BECAME QUITE CLEAR WHO WAS IN CONTROL IN SAIGON: IN DOING SO IT SHOWED THE SAME REASONED APPROACH WHICH MARKED ITS HANDLING OF THE PROBLEM OF REFUGEE ORPHANS FROM SOUTH VIETNAM. RECOGNITION DOES NOT IMPLY APPROVAL AND FEWER THAN HALF OF THE 500 DELEGATES AT THE LABOUR PARTY'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON MONDAY NIGHT CHEERED MR. ROWLING'S ANNOUNCEMENT. NOR DOES RECOGNITION MEAN AN IMMEDIATE RESUMPTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS." ..... " AN EARLY EXCHANGE OF DEPLOMATIC MISSIONS WOULD NOT NECESSARILY SERVE NEW ZEALAND'S INTERESTS, EVEN IF TH REGIME IN SAIGON AGREED TO THE EXCHANGE. AT MOST, A DIPLOMATIC POST MIGHT GIVE NEW ZEALAND AN OPPORTUNITY TO ASSESS HOW BEST TO APPLY THE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 WELLIN 01379 152221Z

AID PROMISED TO SOUTH VIETNAM: BUT IT WILL NOT MEAN THAT

NEW ZEALAND CAN EXPECT TO HAVE ANY CONTROL OVER THE DIS-  
POSITION OF THAT AID." .....

3. "FORMAL RECOGNITION OF THE GOVERNMENT IN SAIGON AT LEAST  
ALLOWS NEW ZEALAND TO ADD A VERY SMALL VOICE TO THE PLEAS  
FROM OTHER COUNTRIES THAT THE KILLING IN SOUTH VIETNAM  
SHOULD STOP AND THAT REVENGE SHOULD NOT BE A PRINCIPAL  
OBJECT OF THE NEW REGIME. NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA ARE  
NOT LIKELY TO BE LISTENED TO; THEY ARE ON THE SHORT LIST  
OF "LACKEYS OF THE UNITED STATES" - THE COUNTRIES WHICH  
ATTEMPTED TO HELP SOUTH VIETNAM DEFEND ITSELF FROM  
INVASION. SAIGON'S NEW MASTERS, IN THE EUPHORIA OF  
VICTORY, HAVE NO SPECIAL REASON TO BE AGREEABLE TO RECENT  
ENEMIES. APART FROM SUCH SENTIMENTS, THE IDEA OF  
DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES MAY HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THE NEW REGIME  
HAS BEEN CONFIRMED IN OFFICE BY THE PROMISED ELECTIONS.

4. "IN RECOGNISING THE P.R.G. THE NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT HAS  
INDICATED AGAIN THAT THE MANNER IN WHICH A GOVERNMENT HAS  
BEEN ESTABLISHED IS NO BAR TO ITS RECOGNITION. THE  
PRINCIPLE WAS ENDORSED LAST YEAR BY THE FORMER PRIME  
MINISTER (MR. KIRK), AT WHOSE BEHEST NEW ZEALAND FINALLY  
RECOGNISED THE RUSSIAN CONQUEST OF ESTONIA, LATVIA, AND  
LITHUANIA 35 YEARS AGO AND THEIR SUBSEQUENT FORMAL  
INCORPORATION INTO THE SOVIET UNION. THE ATTITUDE IS  
USUALLY SENSIBLE, IF CYNICAL, ESPECIALLY FOR SUCH A  
COUNTRY AS NEW ZEALAND, WHICH DEPENDS ON FOREIGN TRADE  
AND CANNOT AFFORD THE LUXURY OF BESTOWING POLITICAL  
PRAISE AND BLAME THROUGH DIPLOMATIC POSTURING."  
HOULAHAN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, RECOGNITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975WELLIN01379  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750172-0067  
**From:** WELLINGTON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750547/aaaabqel.tel  
**Line Count:** 91  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 JUL 2003 by BalzMJ>; APPROVED <05 FEB 2004 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MEDIA REACTION FOR: IOP, IPS, IBS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, VS, NZ  
**To:** USIA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006